

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294 (323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

October 2, 2015

TO:

EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM:

DARYL L. OSBY, FIRE CHIEF

Dayl f. Osly

TEMPORARY HELICOPTER LEASE

This memorandum is to inform your Honorable Board that the District will be leasing an AS350 B3E Helicopter from Coastal Helicopter in La Verne, CA, to temporarily replace one of our helicopters (Copter 10) that was permanently placed out of service due to a hard landing during the Lincoln Fire earlier this year. Copter 10 is a Helicopter Coordinator (HLCO) which is a critical resource that is staffed with a pilot and chief officer who are responsible for coordinating air resources, water dropping helicopters and CL-415 SuperScoopers, during a wildland fire or other emergency.

The helicopter lease will allow for our existing aircraft to maintain their Emergency Medical Services, firefighting, and other critical missions.

The AS350 B3E Helicopter is already configured as a HLCO platform and can be fitted with a radio package that matches our existing aircraft. It is already approved and recognized throughout the region. The lease will include insurance and maintenance.

The District's 2015-16 Budget has sufficient appropriation to fund the approximate \$445,000 cost of the lease through December 31, 2015. Note: the exact start date is pending due to the procedural process, and the need for additional pilot training. However, we expect the Copter 10 to be operational by October 15, 2015. In the event there is a need to extend the lease due to lack of rainfall, your Board will be notified.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-6180.

DLO:mt

C:

Sachi Hamai Jim Jones Sheila Williams Each Board Deputy

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